GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1534
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2000
CONSULAR OFFICE OF CANADA IN CHANDIGARH
SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allow the consular office of Canada in Chandigarh to function as a full fledged diplomatic office;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a)&(b) A request has been received from the Government of Canada for expansion of the Visa Collection Center in Chandigarh into a full-fledged Consulate with Canada-based diplomatic staff. Government of India had earlier givenpermission in 1997 to open the Visa Collection Center, to be manned by India-based staff and treated as an extension of the Canadian High Commission in New Delhi.

(c) After careful consideration, keeping all facts in mind, it was decided to let the above arrangement continue for the present.